

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for keeping a copy of data, wherein a primary database server is coupled to a primary data store, wherein the primary database server receives database events from an external source and generates signals for accessing the primary data store, the method comprising
  - using the tracking process to store at least a portion of the received database events in an event log; and
  - using the event log to update a secondary data store.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising
  - excluding some of the events from being stored in the event log.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising
  - wherein the step of excluding some of the events in the event log includes the substep of allowing a user to define which events are excluded.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the external source includes an application program.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the application program is part of a messaging network.
6. The method of claim 1, further comprising
  - updating multiple secondary data stores.
7. In a distributed networked computer system, a method for exchanging messages in said networked computer system, said process comprising the steps of:
  - providing information to be sent from a source to a destination, said source and said destination coupled to said distributed networked computer system;
  - generating a message at said source, said message comprising the information and routing information;
  - transmitting said message to a selected route point in said distributed computer network using a first communication backbone;
  - transmitting said message to at least one additional selected route point in said distributed computer network using a second communication backbone;

11 archiving said message at each route point;  
12 transmitting said message from route point to said destination;  
13 eliminating duplicate copies of said message at said destination;  
14 generating an event log including information about said archiving; and  
15 using the event log to update a secondary data store.

1 8. A method for maintaining copies of data, wherein an application  
2 program sends events to a database server, wherein the database server generates database  
3 transactions to modify a primary copy of data, the method comprising  
4 storing a record of the events as an original event log; and  
using the original event log to maintain multiple copies of the data.

5 9. The method of claim 8, further comprising  
transferring at least a portion of the record of events to multiple data sites,  
3 wherein each data site includes a data store, wherein each data store includes at least a  
portion of the data; and  
4 using the transferred at least a portion of the record of events to update the  
6 data at the data stores.

1 10. The method of claim 9, wherein at least one data site receives events  
2 from two or more data sites.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein a secondary data site receives a  
2 series of events in an order different from the order of events in the original event log, the  
3 method comprising  
4 using the received different-order events to update data at the secondary data  
5 site.